



A Moment of Summer Sabbath

By Pastor Annie Ladnier

The summer months are rich with ministry memories for me. In recent weeks my social media feeds have reminded me of them. During the years I did full-time youth ministry, my summers were far from Sabbath moments. My suitcase always stayed halfway unpacked between Confirmation Camp, High School Retreats, Mission Trips, etc. As frantic as the summer months can sometimes feel for adults trying their best to make the most of these short months, I always witnessed that they were absolutely magical moments for young people.

Free from the obligations of constant school work or extracurriculars, our younger siblings find themselves with time to simply breathe. For those in a faith community this time is often some of the only moments where they can feel a deep connection with the divine. I can personally attest to the absolute divine holiness in the midst of a campfire. In the crispness of summer night air, with the expansiveness of the universe twinkling above, transfixed by the crackle of fire, the sweetness of marshmallows, and the giggles, whispers, and even occasional camp song harmony, God finds God's way in.

I often encounter adults who long for those kinds of summer ministry moments. Memories of *feeling the Spirit in the midst of a hike, or a kayak ride, or gathered around a fire with dozens of others singing alleluias. We remember how we felt at that National Youth Gathering, or Bible camp, or how we were changed during a week of mission work. But, I still contend that summer offers a unique bit of holy ground, no matter how old we are...an invitation for each of us to remove our sandals, letting the sand or the grass tickle between our toes (Exodus 3:5). Whether we are 9, 19, 49, or 90, God is absolutely still at work in the midst of our lives.*

As we linger in this precious time of summer- where there is still as much ahead as what has passed and the days are long and the evenings not too hot, I pray that you have time to encounter the Holy One- to tap back into that curious young person, to wonder where God is calling you next, to be surrounded in story and song with others who know and love Jesus too, and to have the youthful expectation that anything is possible. May it be yours.

I leave you with A Blessing For Evening by Rev. Meta Herrick Carlson, which inspired this post:

*The crickets harmonize and dusk grows
casting shadows on today's best efforts.
Nature's call to worship persists.*

*Sparrows charm and chipmunks flirt,
loons dovetail silently on the lake.
I feel the curved trunk of the poplar tree against
my back.*

*Her branches stretch proudly overhead
like a banner waiting to glow in the moonlight.
A twig snaps beneath my foot as I shift
my weight.*

*I like to come outside after dinner
to remember that I am small
and also I matter so much.*

*The gnats are alleluias in my ears, and
I let them sing me home. I am alive,
Grateful for a place in this world.*

This Week at HOPE July 11, 2023



HOPE at Meet River Falls Event

This Saturday, July 15th from 11:00 -1:00
Located near City Hall on Maple Street

Come out to visit your neighbors, you can help us hand out information about HOPE. We will be making and serving Root Beer Floats!

If you have questions contact Keith Getschel

This Week at HOPE July 11, 2023



Food Shelf at UWRF - The students who are working and doing research on campus this summer need some ongoing help with food.

This summer Journey House is stocking a food shelf with non-perishable food items. We especially need help with gluten-free options. There are bins for donations outside the main office of Ezekiel Lutheran Church, where the Journey House office is located.

Or you can drop donations off in the Little Free Food Pantry on the porch at the house, 143 East Cascade Avenue, and then text Deacon David at 715.642.0109 so he can pick them up.

This Week at HOPE July 11, 2023



SONGS & SUDS

Monday, August 14th

6-7:30pm

@ Rush River Brewery

led by HOPE Lutheran's Strings of HOPE



National Night Out

08.01.23

STERLING PONDS PARTY

5:30-8:00PM

**Bounce House, Balloon Art, Face Painting,
FREE Food, Raffle Prizes, Dessert Trucks,
Games, Kites, local fire/police/EMT & More!!!**



HOPE Lutheran Church, 3337 Kingsbarn Ave, River Falls

This Week at HOPE July 11, 2023



YOUTH NEWS



Wednesdays of Wonder

3rd Wednesdays This Summer!

6-8PM

June 21

Kayak & Campfire

July 19

Outdoor Scavenger Hunt

August 16

Art & Project Fun



FREE
ADMISSION!

A POOL PARTY WITH HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

08.05.23 | 6:15-7:30 PM | GLEN PARK POOL | ALL ARE WELCOME!

Treats provided!

This Week at HOPE July 11, 2023



Holy Yoga

FOR BODY, MIND & SPIRIT

WEDNESDAYS, 6:00PM

JUNE 07-AUG 30

Outdoor yoga, meditation, & reflection

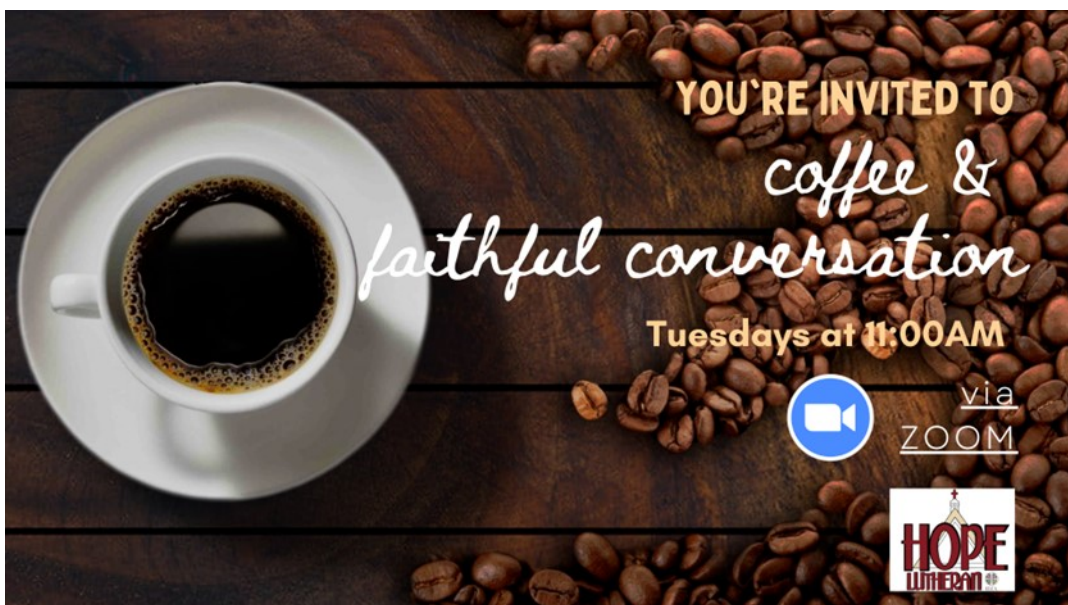
bring a yoga mat, water bottle, & yourself!

Cost: FREE WILL offering


3337 KINGSBARN AVE
WINDS OF THE SPIRIT PAVILLION


WHAT TO EXPECT:

- 45-60 minute session of beginning to intermediate yoga
- Use of Christian Scripture for grounding
- Reflective meditation/prayer exercises
- Feeling renewed!
- Joyfully gathering with others!
- Enjoying the beautiful landscape!

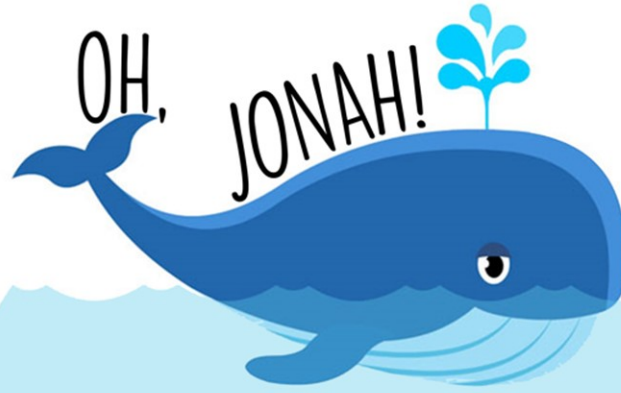


YOU'RE INVITED TO
coffee & faithful conversation
Tuesdays at 11:00AM

 via
ZOOM



This Week at HOPE July 11, 2023



CHILDREN'S MUSICAL

July 17-20th, 2023

9:00-noon

Dinner and Performance July 20th, 6:00 PM

Completed Kindergarten - Grade 6

ALL ARE WELCOME! NO CHARGE

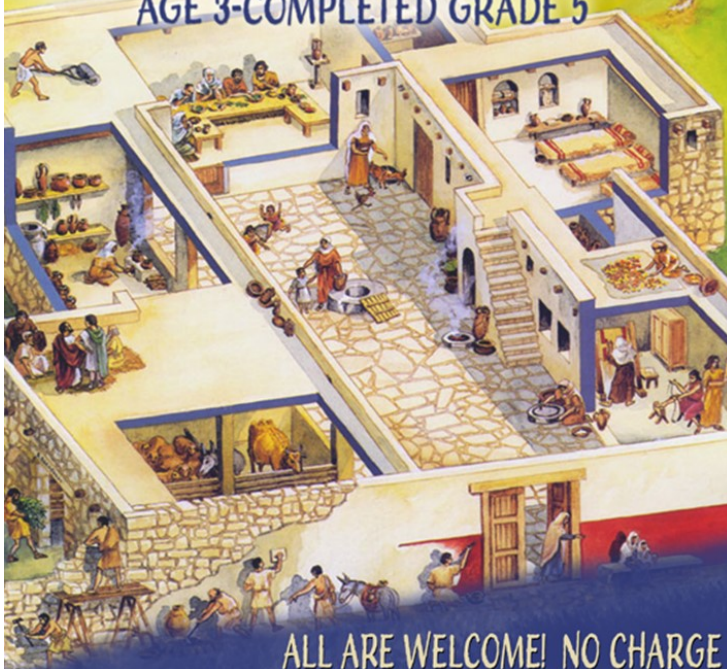


HOPE Lutheran kids will join kids
from First Congregational UCC
110 N 3rd St. River Falls, WI | 715-425-2052
Scan QR code to register or visit: www.firstchurchrf.org

THE WORLD When Jesus Lived

JULY 31-AUGUST 3, 2023 | 9:00-11:30 AM

AGE 3-COMPLETED GRADE 5



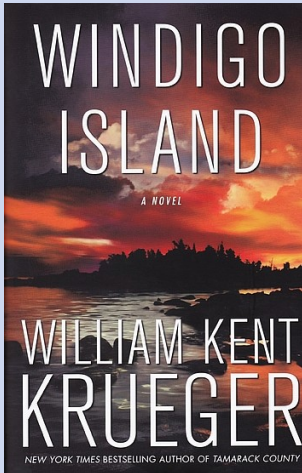
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HOPE Lutheran kids will join kids from First Congregational UCC
110 N 3RD ST. RIVER FALLS, WI | 715-425-2052
Register at: www.firstchurchrf.org



Upcoming Synod Summer Book Discussions

You are invited to join lay people, pastors, and deacons from across our Synod for thought-provoking conversation on these two books:



Windigo Island

By Willian Kent Krueger

July 26, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Lead by Pastor Diane
House

Click [HERE](#) for Zoom
link

Meeting ID: 847 5561
7233

Password: 486034

When the body of a teenage Ojibwe girl washes up on the shore of an island in Lake Superior, the residents of the nearby Bad Bluff reservation whisper that it was the work of the mythical beast, the Windigo. But as soon as Cork O'Connor, former sheriff turned private investigator, starts asking questions about the girl and her missing fifteen-year-old friend, Mariah, no one will talk. Holding tight to his vow to find Mariah for her desperate family, Cork makes his way to the old port city of Duluth--a modern-day sex trafficking center. With only the barest hope of saving her from men whose darkness rivals that of the legendary Windigo, Cork prepares for an epic battle that will determine whether fear, or love, will truly conquer all.



The Killing Moon

By N.K. Jemison

August 30, 2023

7:00 p.m.

Lead by Pastor Sara Villarreal
Bishop

Click [HERE](#) for Zoom
link

Meeting ID: 847 5561
7233

Password: 486034

The story follows Ehiru, one of the most experienced Gatherers, as things go awry during one of his commissions. Despite his wish to serve a time of penance for his failure, Ehiru is ordered to gather a woman judged corrupt. It soon becomes clear that things are not what they seem: there's a conspiracy lurking at the heart of the Hetawa, shaking the very foundations of Ehiru's faith; more worrisome, though, is that someone is gathering souls in Gujaareh in both the waking and dreaming realm, but their departures look anything but peaceful. Accompanied by his apprentice, Nijiri, Ehiru must team up with the woman he was sent to kill in order to investigate.



Women's Cancer Support Group

River Falls

Join us

- Third Tuesday of every month
- 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
- St. Bridget Catholic Church
211 East Division Street, River Falls

Gather with other women to share
encouragement and wisdom about
cancer and recovery.

This Week at HOPE July 11, 2023



Please lift up the following people in prayer

Karen Brohaugh and Family
Nancy Miller (Friend of Paula & Phil Klacan)
Family of Marc DuPaul (Nephew of Naomi Brandt)
Linda Shurden (Friend of Nancy Sailer)
Judy Lukes (Faye Perkins Aunt)
Charli and Sam King (Friends of Faye Perkins)
Bernie Brohaugh
David Anderson (Brother of Karen Brohaugh)
Family of Romeo Thompson
Dorothy Webb (Russ Jiskra's grandmother)
Joyce Kendall (Mother of Cara Getschel)
Richard Burns (Grandfather of Luke & Jack Stang)
Judy Branson (Relative of the Boocks)
Hannah Forward
Amanda Olson (Olive Olson's daughter)
Jerry Gibson (Diane Clark and Karen Rodewald's father)
George & Mary Klacan (Phil's Parents)
Ella Conover (Niece of Phil & Paula Klacan)
Laura McDonald (Sister of Jean Loudon)
Mary Babler (Friend the Dan Malaney)
Beth Lindgren (Sister-in-law Dan Malaney)
Betty Lou Oppegard
Anna Peterson's Family (Friend of Olive Olson)
Daryl Kleeman (brother of Darcy Boock)
Naomi Brandt and family
Milo Oppegard
Carin Perkins (Faye Perkins sister)
David Boock (Relative of the Boocks)
Nicholas Simpson (Boock family friend)
Linda Hidding (Nancy Sailer's cousin)
Teajai Schmidt (Boock family friend)
Rev. Sarah Mayer-Flatt (Friend of Pastor Annie)
Lee Hill (friend of Naomi Brandt)
Judy Karshbaum
Gary Siebold
David Hendrickson
Jon Boyce
Jay and Jeri Jorgenson (friends of the Bohnerts)

This Week at HOPE July 11, 2023



July Birthdays

Name	Date
Tessa VanOverbeke	3-Jul
Janet Gerber	7-Jul
Bill Warner	7-Jul
Ross VanOverbeke	7-Jul
Lucas Ladnier	11-Jul
Danielle Tokheim	15-Jul
Betty Lou Oppegard	16-Jul
William Berndt	18-Jul
Luke Stang	18-Jul
Jon Filarsky	21-Jul
Piper Rodewald	22-Jul
Erin Nelson	23-Jul
Payton Torntore	24-Jul
Joseph McIntosh	25-Jul
Steve Leitch	28-Jul
Nancy Peters	30-Jul

July Baptisms

- Will Bohnert
- Alyssa Boock
- Andrea Boock
- Denise Burkett
- Peter Nelson
- Milo Oppegard
- Elizabeth Rodewald
- Eric Rodewald
- Hunter Rodewald
- Douglas Rudesill
- Ross VanOverbeke
- Spencer Ziebarth



July Anniversaries	Date	Celebrating Years
Jerry & Darcy Boock	03-Jul	47
Phillip & Paula Klacan	20-Jul	38
John & Karen Hamilton	26-Jul	32
Robb & Kathy Scott	25-Jul	31
Marc & Martie Guthrie	25-Jul	26
Jason & Hallie Neuhaus	10-Jul	19
Mitch & Erin Nelson	13-Jul	16



First Sunday of the Month Special Collections

The River Falls School District has 112 children signed up for the Backpack Program this year. This program falls under the auspices of Our Neighbors' Place and is primarily funded by The Black Tie Affair held every April and donations. It does not receive any help from the River Falls Food Pantry.

Therefore, the Mission Ministry through HOPE would like to start collecting donations for the Backpack Program on the first Sunday of each month alternating with the Food Pantry.

The Magic Box works in the same manner as for the Food Pantry, whereas each dollar magically will have \$5 of purchasing power. The next opportunity will be November 6, when your generous donations will support the Backpack Program.

First Sunday of the Month Special Collections Schedule

2023

January 1	Backpack Program
February 5	Food Pantry
March 5	Backpack Program
April 2	Food Pantry
May 7	Backpack Program
June 4	Food Pantry
July 2	Backpack Program
August 6	Food Pantry
September 3	Backpack Program
October 1	Food Pantry
Nov 5	Backpack Program
December 3	Food Pantry